

REMARKS

Applicant has filed a substitute specification to incorporate changes which improves the grammar of the translation into English without introducing any new matter and with consistent reference numbers corresponding to the reference numbers in the drawings. The Abstract of the disclosure has also been amended into a single paragraph within the range of 50-100 words, following the suggestion of the Examiner.

One sheet of replacement drawings of Figs. 3 and 4 is included to overcome the objection to the drawings.

The specification has been amended so that the slave arm is represented by the single reference character 1, consistent with its representation in the drawings. In addition, a reference character has been included in claims 4, 7 and 8 for the stationary portions, mobile portions and groove respectively corresponding to the reference character used in the drawings.

A reference character 60 has been included in the description to be consistent with the amended Fig. 4 without the introduction of new matter. Accordingly, applicant believes the drawings are now in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 and the objection thereto should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 4, 7, 8, 11 and 14 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement is respectfully traversed.

As stated above, Fig. 4 now includes reference 60 to identify the groove consistent with the use of reference character 60 in the description.

The stationary and mobile portions 40 and 43 respectively, as identified in the claim and in the description of Fig. 4 adequately describe how the claimed stationary and mobile portions are structurally connected to the other elements in the claims. In this regard, claim 4 now identifies the stationary portions using the reference number 40 and the mobile portions using the reference number 43.

Likewise, claims 7 and 8 have also been amended to include the reference number 40 for the stationary portions, the reference number 43 for the mobile portions and the reference number 60 for the groove. We believe the description in conjunction with claims 4, 7 and 8 clearly teach how the claimed stationary and mobile portions are structurally interrelated to the other elements. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 4, 7, 8, 11 and 14 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, should now be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, is respectfully traversed.

We have amended the claims to overcome this rejection. In this regard, the manipulation member 12 has been amended to read a manipulation tool 12. A reference number has been given to the stationary portions, the mobile portions and

the groove in claims 4, 7 and 8 consistent with the description of these members in the description.

In claims 5 and 9, the first segment has been amended to read "tubular segment 3" consistent to the tubular segment 3 recited in claim 1. The two segments 46 and 47 in claim 7 are different from the tubular segment 3 of claim 5. The amendment to the claims clearly distinguishes all of the segments recited in the claims.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, should now be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 12 and 15 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gerard (FR 2667532) in view of Gosselin et al (US Publ. 2004/0250644) is respectfully traversed.

Applicant has indicated that claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Accordingly, applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate all the limitations in claims 2 and 3 so that claim 1 should now be allowable over the art of record. Claim 1 has also been amended to overcome the rejections thereto under 35 USC 112 second paragraph. Applicant believes claim 1, as amended, is now in condition or allowance. All of the other claims 4-15 depend from claim 1 and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons as given above.

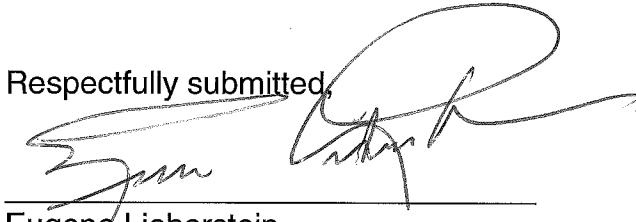
Applicant acknowledges that claims 10 and 13 have also been indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112.

Claims 10 and 13 have been amended to depend directly from claim 1 which has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 2 and 3 as indicated above.

For all of the above reasons, claims 1 and 4-15 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 and 4-15 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this Amendment w/attachments is being timely e-filed with the USPTO via EFS-Web on April 10, 2012.

By: 